THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). A concept paper for units under Ministry of Industry is under preparation.

[Translation]

Policy of Indeginous Industries

5793. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of the Government to promote indeginous industries;

(b) whether under this policy the indeginous industries are competent to compete with the industries set up by multinational companies; and

(c) the facilities available to indeginous industries *vis-a-vis* multinational companies ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Under the new economic reforms, the industrial policy of the Government is to build on the gains already made, correct the distortions or weaknesses that may have crept in, maintain a sustained growth in productivity and grainful employment, attain international competitiveness and encourage all sectors of industries to grow and improve on their past performance.

(c) Various measures have been taken to provide to the Indian companies a level playing field *vis-a-vis* foreign companies. Some of the measures taken by the Government, *inter-alia,* include reduction in excise duties, levy of countervailing duty wherever required, reduction in corporate tax, etc.

[English]

Transport Subsidy to Industries in Assam

5794. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the transport subsidy has not been sanctioned to the industrial units located in the State of Assam has created a negative condition for industrial growth; and

(b) the total amount of transports subsidy payable by Union Government till date and the steps being taken to release this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Transport Subsidy to the tune of approximately Rs. 70.00 lakhs is payable by the Union Government by way of re-imbursement to the State Government of Assam. This is pending for want of additional information/clarification from the State Government and will be released on receipt of requisite information.

Export Turnover of SSI and NSIC

5795. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total export turnover of small scale industrial units was Rs. 24,150 crores and National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. was Rs. 13.21 crores during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons for less export turnover of National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.; and

(c) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The direct export from small scale sector in 1993-94 was Rs. 25307.09 crores. National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. had an export turnover of Rs. 13.21 crores.

(b) and (c). NSIC's aim is to develop small scale industries to enter into export market, and induct the units by providing them the initial support for entering into business contacts with buyers and other agencies. Once the units are established and have the linkages and knowledge to export, they start exporting directly and their turnover is not included in NSIC's exports. In place of the outgoing units new units are inducted. The role of NSIC is developmental nature. The corporation is providing continuous and constant support to the SSI units in exporting their products all over the world either through them of directly with the support and guidance of NSIC. The Corporation has adopted a Single Window Assistance approach to boost export of projects and products from the SSI sector.

[Translation]

Class IV Employees

5796. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether class IV employees working in many Undertakings are paying Income Tax;

(b) if so, whether the pay scales differ in Undertakings, Banks, Ministries and many other public institutes due to which there is resentment amongst it. Government employees getting less pay resulting in discouragement; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to bring parity in the pay scales ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Income-tax is payable by a person if his total income of the previous year from all the sources (including salary) exceeds the maximum amount which is not chargeable to income-tax. At present, the limit of total income not chargeable to income tax in the case of an 'Individual' assessee is Rs. 40,000/-. It is not necessary for a salaried assessee to mention in the return of income the class (i.e. I, II, III or IV) to which the employee belongs.

(b) The present pay structure of the Central Government employees is based on the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission as accepted by the Government with certain improvements. This Commission also considered the demand of the employees for parity in the wages of the Central Government employees *vis-a-vis* employees of the public undertakings. Prima facie the Commission observed that the job contents of even a Peon/Messenger in the